

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled STEERING COLUMN APPARATUS, the specification of which

is attached hereto.

was filed on _____, as United States Application No. _____ or PCT International Application No. _____, and was amended on _____.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 (a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

| Application No. | Country | Filing Date | Priority Claimed | |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | Yes | No |
| 2002-361108 | JAPAN | December 12, 2002 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No. _____ Filing Date _____

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application No. _____ Filing Date _____

I hereby appoint Nelson H. Shapiro, Reg. No. 17,095, Mitchell W. Shapiro, Reg. No. 31,568, and the other practitioners associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to that Customer Number:

Customer Number 000181.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

- (1) Full name of sole or first inventor: Kou YAMAMOTO
Date: November 18, 2003 Signature: Ron Yamamoto
Citizenship: JAPAN Residence: Gunma-ken, Japan
Post Office Address: c/o NSK Ltd., 1-8-1 Soja-machi, Maebashi-shi, Gunma-ken, Japan
- (2) Full name of second joint inventor, if any: Daijiro YAMASAKI
Date: November 18, 2003 Signature: Daijiro Yamasaki
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